

~~SECRET~~
MEMORANDUM TO: Certain FE, SE and NEA Desks

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SUBJECT: Transmittal of the Paper Entitled "The Singapore Disorders of 1955"

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1. Attached is a sanitized and unclassified version of the subject study originally disseminated to desks and stations in [REDACTED] Communist Party Penetration Program, #4, and to other government agencies at [REDACTED]. Also attached is a memorandum for transmitting the study to field stations. The attached study with the transmittal memorandum can be transmitted to interested liaison services, unilateral FI or PP agents or government officials if approval is given by [REDACTED]

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2. The study describes the tactics employed successfully by Communist-dominated elements in Singapore in May 1955. These tactics had the primary objective of harassing and embarrassing the 1955 Singapore Government, and had been tested by the Communist-dominated elements in a series of disorders in 1954.

3. The attached memorandum also contains a brief summary of the 1956 Singapore Government's successful anti-subversion campaign aimed at reducing the effectiveness of the Communist-dominated groups. The 1956 Singapore Government provoked these Communist-dominated elements into anti-Government actions, and then firmly countered and contained the tactics and maneuvers of these groups. Although the anti-government tactics of the Communist groups had been successful in 1954 and 1955, they were unsuccessful in 1956, due to the readiness, preparedness, and willingness of the 1956 Singapore Government to move quickly and firmly, with the result that the Communist-dominated groups were shattered and their effectiveness sharply reduced. In use of this material, it should be mentioned that both governments were and are led by local leaders--it is not a British administration.

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4. Please coordinate outgoing dispatches with [REDACTED]. There are a limited number of additional copies available from [REDACTED]. If copies are not to be used, please return to [REDACTED]

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(7 February 1957)